

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS



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For Week Ending October 24, 1999

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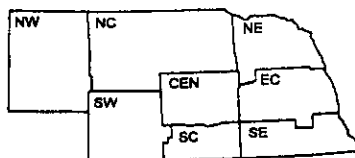
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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
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WEATHER

Temperatures for the week averaged two to six degrees below normals across the State. Little or no precipitation was reported for the week.

GENERAL

Another week with virtually no rainfall allowed fall harvest to advance quickly, but left many pastures and some fall planted crops needing moisture according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Statewide, moisture supplies were reported as adequate in many counties in the western third of the State. Elsewhere, moisture supplies were short and southeastern counties were experiencing drought like conditions which were limiting wheat emergence. Fire danger in eastern counties was high, with numerous small fires being reported. Other producer activities for the week included fall tillage, and livestock care.

CROPS

Corn harvest reached 74%, near 73% last year, but well ahead (nine days) of 54% average. If conditions hold, most producers will finish harvest within the next ten days. Grain coming out of fields had fallen, in some cases, to as

CROPS (Cont.)

low as 10% moisture. Corn was being piled on the ground at numerous elevators, waiting for railcars to arrive.

Soybean harvest was virtually complete at 96%, ahead of 86% last year, and 89% average.

Sorghum harvest rated 66% complete, behind 74% last year, but near 63% average.

Alfalfa conditions rated 3% very poor, 17% poor, 36% fair, 41% good, and 3% excellent. Alfalfa fourth cutting was complete in nearly all areas. Dryland producers in many eastern counties were looking for additional moisture to support overwintering of the crop.

Wheat acreage emerged rated 96%, near 95% last year, 97% average. However, because of dry conditions, only about half of the southeastern fields had emerged.

Proso Millet harvest was near completion at 96%.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range conditions rated 9% very poor, 17% poor, 32% fair, 37% good, and 5% excellent. Dust was causing health problems in confined areas. Because of the advanced harvest, stock fields were getting grazed early this year. In the west, livestock producers were taking advantage of the volunteer wheat growth by turning livestock out to graze.

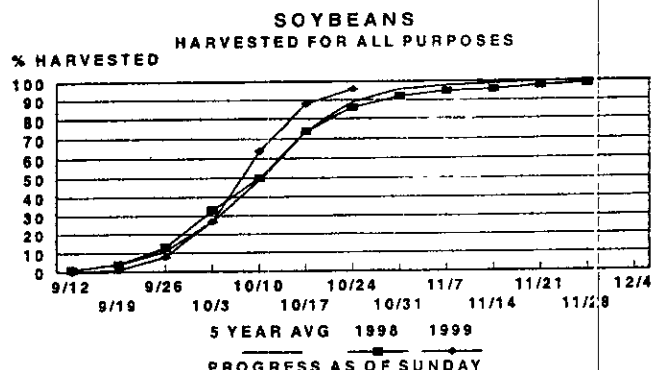
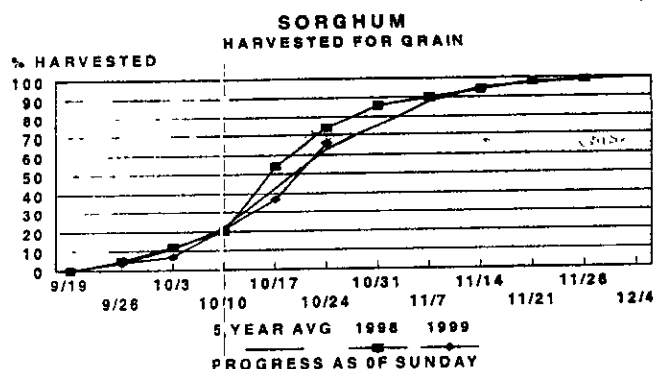
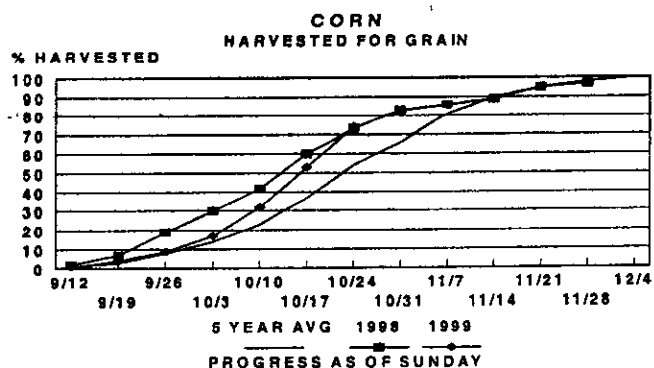
CROP PROGRESS AS OF OCTOBER 24, 1999	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Soybeans Harvested	n/a	99	97	91	96	95	99	96	96	88	86	89
% Corn Harvested	35	69	80	78	82	39	89	81	74	53	73	54
% Sorghum Mature	n/a	100	100	100	100	100	100	92	95	90	100	98
% Sorghum Harvested	n/a	58	100	60	46	36	54	77	66	37	74	63
% Proso Millet Harvested	95	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	100	n/a	n/a	96	88	n/a	n/a
% Wheat Emerged	98	98	95	90	84	98	94	55	96	89	95	97
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF OCTOBER 22, 1999												
Days suitable	69	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	62	
Topsoil moisture (Percent)												
- Very Short	1	12	52	27	29	3	26	78	30	26	2	
- Short	18	23	42	56	63	32	68	18	39	44	22	
- Adequate	81	65	6	17	8	65	6	4	31	30	76	
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Subsoil moisture (Percent)												
- Very Short	0	14	33	19	5	2	7	62	19	21	5	
- Short	8	21	47	49	59	23	53	37	37	36	23	
- Adequate	92	65	20	31	36	75	40	1	44	43	72	
- Surplus	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

n/a = not available

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PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1999

